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REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Eagle Pass, Tex., March 26, 1900.—I have the honor to report that for the week ended March 24, 1900, some 35 persons were returned to Mexico, said persons all coming from districts infected with smallpox and having been directly exposed to the same. On Saturday, the 24th instant, a family of 13 were taken from a coach and transported, for the reason that some of the children had evidently just got up from smallpox. The clothing of these individuals was filthy in the extreme, and the evidence was so perceptible that the individuals were wearing at the time the same clothes which they wore while suffering from smallpox, that I deemed it unsafe to pass them. Besides this their baggage could not have been properly fumigated here on account of its nature, burning being the only course to pursue. As this would have left them devoid of sleeping material transportation was deemed the wiser course to pursue, more especially since the immigrant inspector refused to pass them.

This family was on the train, in the second-class coach, only about twenty minutes but the stench caused by them was so offensive and the chance of infecting the car so great that I deemed it wise to fumigate the car, hence I ordered same cut-out of the train and forthwith proceeded to fumigate with Gycochloro formol by means of the autoclave at this place. Before using the autoclave, however, I sprinkled the car with formalin for fear that the autoclave would not work properly, though in this I was mistaken; however, the fumigation was a decided success.

Respectfully,

LEA HUME,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

EL PASO, TEX., *March 24, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the summary of work during the week ended March 24, 1900:

Inspection Mexican Central Railroad passenger trains, 143; inspection Rio Grande Pacific Railroad Mexican trains (passengers), 22; inspection of excursion trains from Mexico (2), passengers, 101; inspection of immigrants, 27; disinfection of baggage, 14; disinfection of linen of excursion trains left at El Paso for laundry, 1,200 pieces; disinfection of Juarez linen imported for El Paso laundry, 312 pieces; disinfection of goatskins, 7 bundles; vaccination of immigrant children, 6.

Respectfully,

E. ALEXANDER,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Laredo, Tex., March 26, 1900.—I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ended March 18, 1900: Passengers on Mexican National Railroad inspected and passed, 328; immigrants inspected and allowed entry, 6; persons vaccinated upon entry, 6.

Laredo, Tex., March 27, 1900.—I have the honor to submit the following report for week ended March 25, 1900: Passengers on Mexican National Railroad inspected and allowed entry, 348; immigrants inspected and allowed entry, 22; immigrants vaccinated upon entry, 4.

Respectfully,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.